



## **News Release**

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **Help A Child Hear This Holiday Season**

**(Salt Lake City, UT)** – Utahns can give the gift of hearing to a child by donating their used hearing aid(s) to the Utah Department of Health's Hearing Aid Recycling Program (HARP). Every year used hearing aids are needed to help hearing-impaired children in Utah whose families cannot afford to buy new ones.

The HARP program reconditions the donated hearing aids, and if necessary, repairs them before fitting them on a child. “Without amplification a hearing-impaired child cannot learn speech and language normally,” says Katie Denter, HARP program coordinator. “During the past year, 27 hearing aids were fit on Utah children, saving families more than \$30,000.”

To donate hearing aids or to see if a child qualifies for the HARP program, call Katie Denter at 801-584-8218. People outside the Salt Lake City area may call 1-800-829-8200, option 5. You may also write to:

Utah Department of Health  
Hearing, Speech and Vision Services  
44 North Medical Drive  
Salt Lake City, Utah, 84113

Donors will receive a self-addressed, stamped, packing envelope for return of the hearing aid(s). Donors are sent a letter acknowledging their contribution after the hearing aids are received.

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Contributions may be considered a charitable contribution for tax purposes. Denter also encourages Utahns to donate other devices, such as F.M. or personal listening device systems, to help hearing-impaired children in classrooms.

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*The mission of the Utah Department of Health is to protect the public's health through preventing avoidable illness, injury, disability and premature death, assuring access to affordable, quality health care, and promoting healthy lifestyles.*